

in San Francisco on March 29, stopped in Washington, DC on May 14 via Panama, then went on to Baltimore, Philadelphia, and, finally, to New York.

The arrival of the Japanese in Washington DC was a major event, and Congress granted a \$50,000 budget, almost \$1.5 million in today's dollars, to entertain them. On March 28th, the mission paid its official visit to President James Buchanan.

On June 18, 1860, hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers packed the streets of Manhattan to watch the sword-toting samurai parade on Broadway during the diplomatic two-week stay in New York. The unprecedented throng of New Yorkers lined the parade route from Lower Manhattan to Union Square, hoping to glimpse the exotic visitors. The great Walt Whitman was on hand and composed a poem in their honor. The city hosted a grand civic ball for 10,000, and members of New York society vied to entertain the visiting Japanese diplomats. Mayor Wood and the Common Council of New York held a reception in honor of the Japanese ambassadors in the Governor's Room at City Hall.

New Yorkers and the popular press were overcome with Japan mania, especially for the youngest member of the group, seventeen-year-old translator Tateishi Onojiro, also known as "Tommy." With the appearance of the popular song, the "Tommy Polka," the "Tommy" boom outlasted the departure of the delegation itself. For their part, the Japanese delegation studied American industry and technology, learned about its government and customs, and brought back ideas that would help fuel Japan's emergence on the world stage.

Madam Speaker, although largely forgotten today, the Japanese 1860 Samurai Mission was to ratify the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation, which had been signed several years earlier. The agreement opened the ports of Edo and four other Japanese cities to American trade, among other stipulations. In the years before the Civil War, the Japanese visitors captivated the American people and the press. This first face-to-face cultural exchange between, the Japanese and everyday Americans was one of the most elaborated spectacles of its time.

As Dean of the New York Congressional Delegation and on behalf of my colleagues and all of the residents of my district, we are honored to join Ambassador Shinichi Nishimiya, Consul General of Japan in New York, James G. Dinan and Susan Henshaw Jones in celebrating Samurai in New York—The First Japanese Delegation, 1860 at Harlem's beloved Museum of the City of New York.

CONGRATULATING THE WINNERS
OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD
FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHE-
MATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the teachers who have been selected to receive the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and

Science Teaching. Administered by the National Science Foundation (NSF) on behalf of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, this award recognizes exemplary teachers for their contributions to the teaching and learning of mathematics and science.

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through twelfth-grade math or science teacher can receive for outstanding student instruction in the United States. Enacted by Congress in 1983, this program authorizes the President to bestow up to 108 awards per year. For the 2009 award, President Obama named 103 teachers from the seventh through the twelfth grades to be recognized with a citation signed by the President and a \$10,000 award from the NSF.

Awards are given to mathematics and science teachers from each of the 50 states and four U.S. territories. In addition to honoring individual achievement, the goal of the award program is to exemplify the highest standards of math and science teaching. Honorees serve as models for their colleagues, inspire their communities, and lead in the improvement of math and science education.

Congratulations to the recipients—all of whom have demonstrated outstanding teaching ability and have contributed greatly to the education of our nation's youth. I would especially like to congratulate Kimberly Morrow-Leong of Marsteller Middle School in Bristow, VA, who has been recognized for mathematics and Dat Le of the H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program in Arlington, VA, who has been recognized for science. In the words of President Obama, these teachers "are inspirations not just to their students, but to the Nation and the world."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments and recognition of the recipients of this Presidential award. I wish these, and all teachers, continued success in educating our nation's youth in math and science, providing for a brighter tomorrow across the country and the world.

HONORING HELEN MAUTNER

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Helen Mautner for her tireless dedication to improving the lives and protecting the rights of all people in Arizona and throughout the United States. For many years, Mrs. Mautner has been involved in the struggle for basic human rights and social justice. She has volunteered for and been employed by organizations that assist those unable to speak or stand up for themselves all her life.

Helen Mautner was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1930. While living in Chicago, she attended Marshall High School on the west side of the city. At the age of sixteen, she moved to California with her family and finished high school there. When Helen was growing up, her ambition was to help the slums of Chicago as an activist. This led her to become a sociology student at Los Angeles City College. She graduated from the University of California

(Berkeley) and received her Bachelor's degree, then her Master's in Social Work. She taught sixth grade for several years. While employed as a school social worker in California, she was introduced to Robert Mautner. They were married from 1958 until his passing in 2004.

Helen and Robert Mautner moved to Tucson in 1965. For the next decade she immersed herself in caring for Robert and her children Erik, Chris, and Alisa, and started her impressive volunteer path to help those in need. She was a stay-at-home mom to the three kids during their elementary school years: she took pottery classes, ran the studio during school hours, met members of Tucson's politically progressive community, and expanded her awareness of how to assist marginalized populations. She volunteered for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) office in Tucson, an organization that defends individual rights guaranteed to every person in the United States. In 1973, she became the ACLU's Southern Arizona Chapter Director. She also served on, and chaired, the People with AIDS Coalition (now the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation). She has been a member of the Tucson Police Citizens Review Board, the Arizona Superior Court Judicial Review Committee, and the City of Tucson Magistrate Selection Committee.

For years, Helen was also involved in compliance with the federal Tucson Unified School District (TUSD) desegregation order. Helen has volunteered for every cause she holds dear, and still spends a great deal of time volunteering for election campaigns for those who share her vision. Her dedication and inspiration helped her to become friends with many local and national activists and political figures. She lent her time and dedication not just to politics, but to people from many walks of life. A longtime associate and friend, Cornelius Steelink, remembered her assisting a local biker group in an anti-discrimination case in the mid 1980s and saw first-hand how her beliefs and openness shone through. He remembered her saying, "You never know who's going to walk into this office, but you have to be ready to (help) them." Emojean Girard, a local activist and retired judge, recently said of her: "We esteem her for her clear thinking and dedication to the cause of civil rights. Tiny though she may be in physical structure, she is a giant of fortitude and determination." In 1997, Helen retired from the University of Arizona as the Assistant Director of the Affirmative Action Office.

When not volunteering her time, she has financially supported charities ranging from Amnesty International to The Redwing Indian Schools. Helen is a regular walker on Martin Luther King Day, and has marched many times for Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers union. Her children remember times when no meat, grapes or chocolate were allowed in the home in support of the causes she held dear. They treasure the values they learned during those formative years from their parents and love Helen for everything she is and what she has always stood up for.

Helen Mautner has been a fantastic mother to her children, providing positive and loving guidance and navigating the challenges of parenthood. She and Robert saw Erik die of cancer in 1987, and she has missed him ever since. Alisa and Chris would not be the people they are today without their mother. Both are